COMMANDERS DIGEST

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President Cites Reasons For U.S. Presence in RVN

American air attacks on military targets in North Vietnam have been imposed and "will continue to impose a growing burden and a high price on those who wage war against the freedom of their neighbors," President Johnson told the nation in a speech at Omaha, Nebr.

The president cited three basic reasons for U.S. presence in Vietnam:

- We believe that the rights of other people are just as important as our own. We believe that we are obligated to help those whose rights are being threatened by brute force.
- South Vietnam is important to the security of the rest of all of Asia. Shielded by the courage of the South Vietnamese, the peoples of free Asia today are driving toward economic and social development in a new spirit of regional cooperation.
- What happens in South Vietnam will determine . . . whether ambitious and aggressive nations can use guerrilla warfare to conquer their weaker neighbors.

The President said the U.S. objective in Vietnam is not war but peace. He said there is nothing the U.S. wants in North Vietnam, nor is there anything the U.S. wants from North Vietnam. There is nothing we want in Communist China. There is nothing the American people want from Communist China.

We have made it very clear by every means at our disposal that we wish the killing to stop, he declared. We have made it very clear that we wish negotiations to begin on the basis of international agreements made in 1954 and 1962.

The purpose of the United States, the President said, "is to convince North Vietnam that this kind of aggression is too costly, that this kind of power cannot succeed."

Bill Seeks Full Tax Exemption For Combat-Duty Officers' Pay

Officers on combat duty would be allowed full Federal income tax exemption under legislation introduced by Rep. Robert L. Leggett (D-Calif.).

Congressman Leggett said enlisted men are entitled to deduct full pay from their gross income while on combat duty. Officers may deduct only up to $200.

OPERATION PAUL REVERE—Gen. William C. Westmoreland, USA, Commander, U. S. Forces Vietnam, congratulates men of Co. B, 2d Bn., 35th Infantry, for their performance during a battle with overwhelming elements of the North Vietnamese Army in Operation Paul Revere.

DOD Draft Study Report Presented to Congress

DOD's manpower chief has presented final analyses of a draft study to House Armed Services Committee, explaining it is necessary to continue inductions for the foreseeable future.

Assistant Defense Secretary (Manpower) Thomas D. Morris said study objective was to assess possibility of meeting manpower requirements on an entirely volunteer basis in the coming decade.

The study, he said, reveals the draft is essential to supply residual manpower needed and to encourage larger numbers of volunteers.

Mr. Morris cited facts and figures in various areas of study, including a finding that 38 percent of enlistees and 41 percent of officers queried said they would not have volunteered if there was no draft.

It was also shown that certain proposed career inducements would not be sufficient to attract required numbers of volunteers.

Secretary Morris explained that without the draft enlisted accessions would drop sharply by 1970 and medical and dental corps would experience particularly severe officer shortages.

Washington Memos

DOD DRAFT STUDY shows rate of inductions since September 1950 has been about 18,600. Draft calls were issued every month except May and June 1961. Some 11.3 million men entered or were called to active service as enlisted men. Of this number, 3.5 million—nearly one in three—were draftees.

DRAFT HAS PROVEN flexible tool during past 16 years, report said. It has adjusted rapidly to widely varying annual requirements. Calls jumped to 564,000 in 1953, dropped to 60,000 in 1961 and reached 334,500 for FY66. All requirements have been met promptly by Selective Service System.

PRINCIPAL PROBLEM AFFECTING operation of draft system in past, according to study, has been growing supply of draft-age men in relation to military requirements. Only 1,150,000 men were reaching age 18 a decade ago. This number increased by 50 percent to more than 1,700,000 in 1965. Upward trend will continue into coming decade. Men reaching draft age will total more than 2,100,000 by 1974.

CONSEQUENCE OF TREND is steadily decreasing percent of nation's manpower in ages 19-25 being called on to serve. In 1958, 70 percent of men reaching age 26 entered service. In 1962, the figure was 58 percent and today's figure is about 42 percent if current three million strength level is sustained in future.

FIRST DETAILS of U.S. Navy hydrofoil gunboat due for delivery in late 1967, have been disclosed. Powered by water jet and capable of speeds in excess of 40 knots, vessel continues Navy's interest in advanced, special-mission craft, typified by PT boats of World War II.

RESEARCH SUBMARINES, STAR II and Star III, completed preliminary sea trials at end of June. 25-foot Star III, capable of 1,500-pound payload, is in Atlantic, preparing for advanced testing of its 2,000-foot depth capabilty. Boat was leased by MSTS to conduct oceanographic research surveys off Bermuda under direction of U.S. Navy Underwater Sound Laboratory.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR INSPECTION and training of more than 3,000 Air National Guard and AF Reserve communications-electronics personnel transferred from transport and tactical fighter command to AF Communications Service effective July 1.

MARINE CORPS SEARCH is underway for men who think they can qualify as combat artists with Fleet Marine Force units overseas. Targets of campaign are Marines who possess a general knowledge of art and ability to produce impressions in any recognized medium. Applicants will be interviewed at their parent command.

SOME 110 RETIRED Army officers living in Oklahoma and Arkansas attended first of two briefings held for retired Army personnel at Fort Sill, Okla. Briefings are designed to bring retired Army personnel up to date on recent developments.

EIGHT A-7A LIGHT attack bombers completed total of 500 flights and logged 750 flight hours in aircraft's flight test program. Tests were conducted by Navy, AF, USMC and civilian pilots at Naval Air Test Center, Patuxent, Md., Naval Weapons Evaluation Facility, Albuquerque, N.M., and Dallas, Tex. External stores separations and firings included bombs; Sidewinder, Bullpup and Shrike missiles; mines; rockets, and rocket packets.

NASA WILL AWARD its Exceptional Service Medal to Lt. Col. Robert A. Rushworth, USAF, for his contributions to U.S. aeronautical research programs as pilot and engineer on X-15 rocket airplane. Award will be presented in October.

MORE EFFECTIVE PROGRAM of interservice supply support within DOD is expected to result from multilateral policy agreed on by top materiel commanders of armed forces. Agreement establishes policies upon which Wholesale Interservice Supply Support Agreements (WISSAs) can be developed. WISSAs provide method through which each branch of armed forces can arrange for logistics support by another branch.

NEW AUTOMATED MESSAGE center has been activated at Headquarters, CinC Atlantic and U.S. Atlantic Fleet, Norfolk, Va. System, called Naval Automated Message Processing System, screens all incoming messages for precedence, classification, action officer on staff, and automatically corrects transmission garbles. Computers then type message on mat, ready for reproduction. Handling time of messages is expected to be cut from as much as 45 minutes to less than five.

THE CAPITOL—SYMBOL of Freedom, 120-page book of which more than 170,000 copies were sold when first published, has been revised including updated photographs. Providing view of American tradition, book contains pictorial story of Capitol in general and House of Representatives in particular. Book may be purchased for 50 cents from Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

RESERVE COMPONENTS OF Air Force carry about seven percent of all military aircraft cargo. Air Force Reserve lifted more than 11,000 tons and almost 2,400 passengers in 11-month period. During same period Air National Guard lifted more than 20,000 tons of cargo and some 3,900 passengers. ANG also transported some 6,000 patients.

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DOD Establishes Guidelines For Senior ROTC Enrollment

Guidelines concerning the Reserve Officer's Training Corps Vitalization Act of 1964 have been established by DOD memorandum to the Secretaries of the Army and Air Force.

The 1964 act provided the public policy that the decision to maintain compulsory or elective Senior ROTC is the prerogative of the institution or state authorities concerned.

Both Army and Air Force have encountered some difficulty in administering basic ROTC programs because of enrollment limitations imposed, and both services requested and received easement of the limitations for FY 1966 and FY 1967.

DOD's guidelines were set up to insure support of the institutions' freedom of choice and to provide sufficient flexibility to the military departments to carry out this policy.

The guidelines provide that:

- Military departments will enroll all qualified basic ROTC course applicants at both compulsory and elective schools, supporting the scope of the program the institutions wish to conduct.
- Although enrollment limitations continue as an ultimate objective, Army and Air Force will request timely easements as necessary to provide for the basic policy.
- Restrictive measures, such as testing basic ROTC applicants with the objective of screening them out to meet limitations will be discontinued, unless they are specifically requested by institutions or state authorities.
- Screening of students entering the advanced ROTC course will continue with the objective of adjusting input to insure students can reasonably meet commission requirements and that numbers of students are commensurate with service needs.

AF Wins President's Annual Safety Award

The President's Annual Award for 1965 has been awarded to the U.S. Air Force.

Air Force Secretary Harold Brown accepted the award from Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey June 27, at the Vice President's Senate Office.

The award is presented to the federal department or agency with the most outstanding record of performance and accomplishment in civilian occupational injury prevention.

COLOMBIAN TROPHY—Gen. Hunter Harris, PACAF commander-in-chief (right) presents Colombian Trophy to Lt. Col. Richard M. Mischke, Commander 416th Tactical Fighter Squadron at Bien Hoa air base. Trophy is given to AF tactical fighter unit having lowest accident rate during preceding year. Pilots of 416th have flown two years without accident.

Chairman Praises Federal Personnel For Savings Bond Campaign Role

Postmaster General Lawrence F. O'Brien has praised civilian and military personnel for their participation in the 1966 Savings Bonds campaign.

"The sixth weekly report indicates that dollar-value of savings bonds purchases by federal workers was up $26 million from the previous week," Mr. O'Brien said.

Latest statistics show that Army leads the military departments with 77.9 percent, followed by Air Force and Navy.

The Savings Bonds Division of the Treasury Department reports that some 50,000 persons already buying bonds have increased their bond allotments during the drive.

The 1966 cumulative dollar-value of sales now totals $380 million, compared to $206 million at the start of the Federal campaign.

Astronaut White Receives Gen. White Space Trophy

Astronaut Lt. Col. Edward H. White II, (USAF), has received the General Thomas D. White Space Trophy for "his outstanding contributions to the U.S. exploration of space by becoming the first self-propelled human in outer space."

The White Trophy, honoring the retired Air Force Chief of Staff who died last December, is awarded each year to the Air Force officer or unit making the foremost contribution to United States progress in aerospace.

DOD Pamphlet Supplies Military Assistance Data

The Department of Defense has published a pamphlet entitled "Military Assistance-Data for Debate" to meet requests from students and the general public for information on the Military Assistance Program.

The pamphlet is intended to assist students participating in the National High School Forensic Series in the coming school year. This debate series has created a demand for information showing the manner in which the Military Assistance Program promotes the security and foreign policy objectives of the United States.

Copies of the publication will be available from the Office of the Director of Military Assistance (International Security Affairs) in the Department of Defense.

Navy Releases 25 Ships From Mothball Fleet

The Navy is releasing 25 C-4 type cargo ships from the reserve fleets.

The ships will first be offered to the Military Sea Transportation Service (MSTS) to transport military supplies to Southeast Asia. Then they will be used to "update" the cargo fleet of the Merchant Marines.

The C-4 cargo ships being offered are at least 21 years old but have been described as in "good" condition. They were used as troop carriers during WW II and the Korean War.

Air Force Completes Study Of Aircrew Management

Planned free time for aircrew personnel was the major improvement suggestion of a study conducted by the USAF School of Aerospace Medicine for the Military Airlift Command Surgeon's office and a special committee formed to study problems of aircrew management.

The study was part of an over-all MAC program to improve morale and factors influencing personnel retention.

NEW WAC DIRECTOR—Lt. Col. Elizabeth P. Hoisington, USA, will become Director of the Women's Army Corps Aug. 1, 1966, succeeding Colonel Emily C. Gorman, who will retire. Lt. Col. Hoisington, who will be promoted to the rank of colonel upon assuming her new position, is currently commanding officer of the WAC Center and School, Ft. McClellan, Ala.

Naval Academy Grads Log High Scholarship Record

U.S. Naval Academy Superintendent Rear Admiral Draper L. Kauffman described 868 midshipmen receiving degrees and commissions at graduation exercises as "the best educated class in the history of the Academy."

In support of his statement the Superintendent referred to 27 midshipmen who received fellowships for graduate study in universities at home and abroad. Included were 13 Fulbright appointments, 5 Atomic Energy Commission Fellowships, 2 National Science Foundation Grants, a Daniel and Florence Guggenheim Fellowship, a Purdue University Grant, and 10 Burke Program selectees.

The latter award is the Junior Line Officer's Advanced Scientific Educational program which was initiated by Admiral Arleigh A. Burke, USN, (Ret.), former Chief of Naval Operations.

Army Reorganizes Recruiting Force

Army has instituted major changes in its recruiting organization. The U.S. Army Recruiting Command, Fox Hill, Va., will now report directly to the Dept. of the Army and assume responsibility for world-wide recruiting activities. An additional 450 soldiers joined the field recruiting force.

Prior to the change, supervision of recruiting activities was divided between the Continental Army Command at Fort Monroe, Va. and Department of the Army.

Physical Fitness Film Made at Puerto Rico AFB

The President's Council on Physical Fitness has received help from 13 National Football League players who worked with 40 high school military dependents filming movie at Ramey AFB, Puerto Rico.

The 28-minute color film, "Poised for Action," will be available to dependent schools worldwide and grade and high schools stateside to help promote physical fitness.

Some 100 prints are also being made available to Department of Defense for showing to military audiences. Scheduled release date is September.

82d Airborne Troops Begin Dominican Pullout

First units of the Inter-American Peace Force have been withdrawn from the Dominican Republic.

The first unit to leave was the 1st Battalion, 320th Artillery, 82d Airborne Div., consisting of 350 men and 18 105mm howitzers. Brig. Gen. Robert Linvill, Commanding General, U.S. Forces Dominican Republic, said the unit was slated to return to its home station, Fort Bragg, N.C.

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